

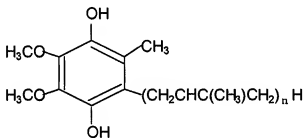
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1 - 9. (canceled).

10. (currently amended): A method for protecting liver functions of a mammal, which reduces an increase in GPT or GOT activity in blood, and which comprises administering to a mammal ~~the composition according to claim 1~~ for protecting liver functions,

said composition comprising reduced coenzyme Q represented by formula (1):



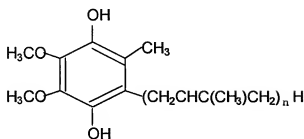
(1)

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(wherein n represents an integer in the range of 1 to 12).

11. (currently amended): A method for protecting liver functions of a mammal, which reduces an increase in GPT or GOT activity in blood, and which comprises orally administering a composition ~~according to claim 1~~ for protecting liver functions,

said composition comprising reduced coenzyme Q represented by formula (1):



(1)

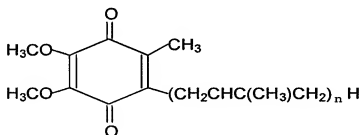
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(wherein n represents an integer in the range of 1 to 12).

12 - 21. (canceled).

22. (currently amended): A method for protecting liver functions of a mammal, which reduces an increase in GPT or GOT activity in blood, and which comprises administering to a mammal a the composition according to claim 12 for protecting liver functions,

said composition comprising oxidized coenzyme Q represented by formula (2) and selenium, wherein the content of the selenium is less than 0.01 percent by weight;



(2)

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(wherein n represents an integer in the range of 1 to 12).

23 - 25. (canceled).